

TREMONT SHELDON P.C.

SPRING 2022

Lawsuit filed against New Beginnings Family Academy Charter School in Bridgeport, CT

BRIDGEPORT, January 19, 2022 – A minor has filed a lawsuit alleging inappropriate sexual contact, assault and exploitation while she was a second-grade student at New Beginnings Family Academy, a charter school located in Bridgeport, CT.

The lawsuit was filed in Bridgeport Superior Court against New Beginnings Family Academy as well as the minor's assigned teacher and teaching assistant during the time of the abuse. The lawsuit is brought by the minor plaintiff through her mother.

Over the course of three months, in 2019 through 2020, the minor was subjected to sexual acts, including oral sex and digital penetration, involving multiple minor students. The sexual acts occurred in the school classroom, the school cafeteria, the school playground, and on the bus to gym class.

At the time of the abuse, the minor plaintiff was one of sixteen students in the classroom under the direct supervision of her teacher and teaching assistant, both mandated reporters under Connecticut law.

"Teachers have an obligation to protect young students during the school day from sexual abuse by other students," said attorney Timothy M. Ramsey, of Tremont Sheldon P.C.

The minor plaintiff alleges that the abuse occurred due to the negligence and carelessness of New Beginnings Family Academy, her teacher, and teaching assistant, in that they knew or should have known that other minor students were sexually abusing and/or sexually assaulting and/or sexually exploiting the minor plaintiff and allowed such conduct to continue and that they failed to properly supervise minor students in order to prevent the sexual abuse from occurring.

"Indeed, parents entrust their children to school with the expectation that they are in a safe environment during the school day. No parent should ever have to endure the pain of learning that their child experienced these horrific acts while at school," said Attorney Jason E. Tremont.



Dog Attacks Result in Settlements

Jason Tremont obtained settlements of \$185,000 and \$144,000 for his clients in two separate dog attacks. In both cases Jason sued the dog owners under the Connecticut dog bite statute (C.G.S. Sec 22-357) which holds the owner and keeper of a dog strictly liable for dog bites and attacks. The settlements were paid by the homeowner's insurance policies of the dog owner.

\$250,000 Settlement for Motor Vehicle Case

Recently, on the eve of trial, a \$250,000 settlement was reached by Tim Ramsey involving a motor vehicle collision that occurred on November 19, 2018. The plaintiff, a 66-year-old woman, was operating her vehicle in Newtown, CT when the defendant's vehicle crossed the yellow line and struck the plaintiff's vehicle head-on. As a result of

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the collision, the plaintiff sustained an aggravation of a pre-existing condition to her neck, ultimately requiring a multi-level anterior cervical discectomy and fusion. Several decades prior to the collision, the plaintiff sought treatment for neck pain which included doctor visits, physical therapy, and injections. The plaintiff claimed that the collision aggravated her pre-existing neck condition, rendering her a surgical candidate. Prior to reaching the settlement agreement, the insurance company refused to offer the plaintiff any compensation and claimed that her injuries were all pre-existing.



Workers' Compensation Award Given to Minor Daughter

James Jackson* suffered a serious injury to his lower back at work on August 4, 2015. He had three operations, multiple injections, physical therapy, and medications, all of which failed to relieve Jim's pain. Sadly, Jim died on July 9, 2020. He is survived by his three daughters, the youngest of whom is a minor. Jim regularly paid child support for his child, and she was dependent upon him for this financial support.

Jim's treating physician concluded that he reached maximum medical improvement on July 7, 2020, two days before his death, as all reasonable, effective medical treatment had been rendered for Jim, he was not expected to improve, and no further medical interventions or surgery were recommended for him.

The workers' compensation insurance carrier refused to pay permanent partial disability benefits to the minor daughter, who was Jim's only presumptive dependent, because the treating doctor's opinions were rendered after Jim had died. The case was tried by Bob Sheldon before Commissioner Jannotta, who found the doctor's testimony credible and persuasive, and awarded \$44,000, the full amount of the disability award to the minor daughter.

**A pseudonym has been used to protect the client's privacy.*



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\$95,000 Settlement Motor Vehicle Case

Frank Bailey recently resolved a disputed liability motor vehicle case for \$95,000. The impact was heavy, but our client only had minor muscular injuries. The case settled shortly after both parties were deposed.

Tremont Sheldon P.C. Selected in Best Law Firms

Tremont Sheldon P.C. has been ranked once again in the **2022 U.S. News - Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms"**. Firms included in the 2022 "Best Law Firms" list are recognized for professional excellence with consistently impressive ratings from clients and peers. The 2022 Edition of "Best Law Firms" includes rankings in 75 national practice areas and 127 metropolitan-practice areas. Congratulations to our attorneys and staff!



Congratulations to Attorney Tim Ramsey for being named partner in 2021

Congratulations

**Attorney
Tim Ramsey**

Named Partner in 2021

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Tim joined Tremont Sheldon as an attorney in 2013 after being a legal clerk during law school. He specializes in litigating personal injury claims including automobile collisions, sexual abuse, medical malpractice, and all other cases of harm resulting from negligence. He is an active member of the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association (CTLA), serving on its Board of Governors and Co-Chairman of its Membership Committee. The Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association is a nonprofit professional association dedicated to creating and maintaining a more just society by preserving individual rights within the justice system. He is also active in the Greater Bridgeport Bar Association and the Connecticut Bar Association. Congratulations Tim, an honor well deserved. To learn more about Tim, please go to his bio on our website.

Meet Our Team

As a client of Tremont Sheldon, you gain a team of people to support you through the process.



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Spring Auto Check List

- Check tires after wear and tear of winter. Replace if necessary.
- Make sure your auto insurance has not lapsed or you have additional drivers such as a college age student that returned home on your policy.
- Check recall.gov to make sure that there are no recalls on your vehicle.
- Take your vehicle for regular maintenance and make sure to have an emergency kit in your car with water, first aid, blanket, and other car essentials.